Application No.: 10/710,747

Page 5

REMARKS

In this paper, claims 1, 4 and 14 are currently amended, and claim 3 has been canceled. After

entry of the above amendment, claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-20 are pending.

The applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 11 and 12.

The applicant appreciates the indicated allowability of claims 3, 4 and 14 if rewritten in

independent form. Claims 4 and 14 have rewritten to be in independent form, so it is believed that

claims 4 and 14 are now allowable. The feature of allowable claim 3 has been incorporated into

claim 1.

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was electronically submitted and received in the

PTO on October 5, 2005, prior to the mailing date of the first office action. However, no

acknowledgment of the IDS has yet been received by the applicant. Confirmation of the status of

that IDS is requested.

Claims 1, 2, 6-10, 13 and 15-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable

over Spangler (US 5,221,102) in view of McDermitt (US 5,478,100). This basis for rejection is

respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the feature of allowable claim 3, so it is submitted that

all claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of this application as amended is

respectfully requested. Allowance of all claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Jam & Belans

James A. Deland

Reg. No. 31,242

DELAND LAW OFFICE

P.O. Box 69

Klamath River, California 96050

(530) 465-2430